

# **1997 Iowa Crash Summary**



**A Summary of Motor Vehicle Crash  
Statistics on Iowa Roadways**



**Iowa Department  
of Transportation**

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The Iowa Department of Transportation would like to thank all enforcement agencies and peace officers for their work on crash investigations which make this report possible. All information concerning Iowa traffic crashes was taken from report forms provided by investigating officers and drivers involved in crashes.

All statistics are gathered and calculated by the Iowa Department of Transportation's Office of Driver Services.

National statistics are obtained from "Traffic Safety Facts 1997" published by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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# General Summary

## 1997 Fast Facts—A General Summary of Motor Vehicle Crashes in Iowa

### In Iowa there were . . .

1 crash every 7.17 minutes.

1 driver out of 17.38 involved in a crash.

1.28 lives lost each day because of traffic crashes;  
A total of 468 lives were lost in 1997.

108.25 persons were injured each day because of traffic crashes;  
A total of 39,511 persons were injured in 1997.

In Iowa, motor vehicle crashes decreased 8.74% in 1997 from the 78,357 crashes recorded in 1996;  
Fatalities increased 0.64% from the 465 fatalities recorded in 1996.

### Nationally there were . . .

41,967 fatalities, a 0.23% decrease from the 42,065 fatalities in 1996;  
37,280 fatal crashes, a 0.57% decrease from the 37,494 fatal crashes in 1996.

## Summary of All Crashes

Type of Crash & Crash Victim	All Crashes	Fatal Crashes	Personal Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes
<b>Total Number of Crashes</b>	71,512	411	25,512	45,589
<b>Total Number of Fatalities</b>	468	468		
<b>Total Number of Injuries</b>	39,511	435	39,076	
<b>Total Number of Vehicles</b>	126,494	683	47,204	78,607
Vehicle Occupants	Involved	184,197	1,103	73,431
	Killed	440	440	
	Injured	38,853	434	38,419
Vehicle Drivers	Involved	119,098	663	45,880
	Killed	312	312	
	Injured	25,998	231	25,767
Vehicle Passengers	Involved	65,099	440	27,551
	Killed	128	128	
	Injured	12,855	203	12,652
Pedestrians	Involved	686	29	657
	Killed	28	28	
	Injured	658	1	657

NOTE: "Occupants" refers to both vehicle drivers and passengers.

"Involved" may include drivers/passengers of a vehicle or pedestrians who are neither injured or killed.

# General Summary

## Summary of Alcohol-Related Crashes

Type of Alcohol-Related Crash & Crash Victim		All Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Personal Injury Crashes		Property Damage Crashes	
<b>Total Number of Crashes</b>		2,788		112		1,535		1,141	
<b>Total Number of Fatalities</b>		126		126					
<b>Total Number of Injuries</b>		2,429		88		2,341			
<b>Total Number of Vehicles</b>		4,323		164		2,338		1,821	
<b>Vehicle Occupants</b>	<b>Involved</b>	6,252		252		3,610		2,390	
		Killed		119		119			
		Injured		2,371		88		2,283	
<b>Vehicle Drivers</b>	<b>Involved</b>	3,932		154		2,195		1,583	
		Killed		89		89			
		Injured		1,522		41		1,481	
<b>Vehicle Passengers</b>	<b>Involved</b>	2,320		98		1,415		807	
		Killed		30		30			
		Injured		849		47		802	
<b>Pedestrians</b>	<b>Involved</b>	65		7		58			
		Killed		7		7			
		Injured		58		0		58	

NOTE: "Occupants" refers to both vehicle drivers and passengers.

"Involved" may include drivers/passengers of a vehicle or pedestrians who are neither injured or killed.

## Summary of Protective Device Usage

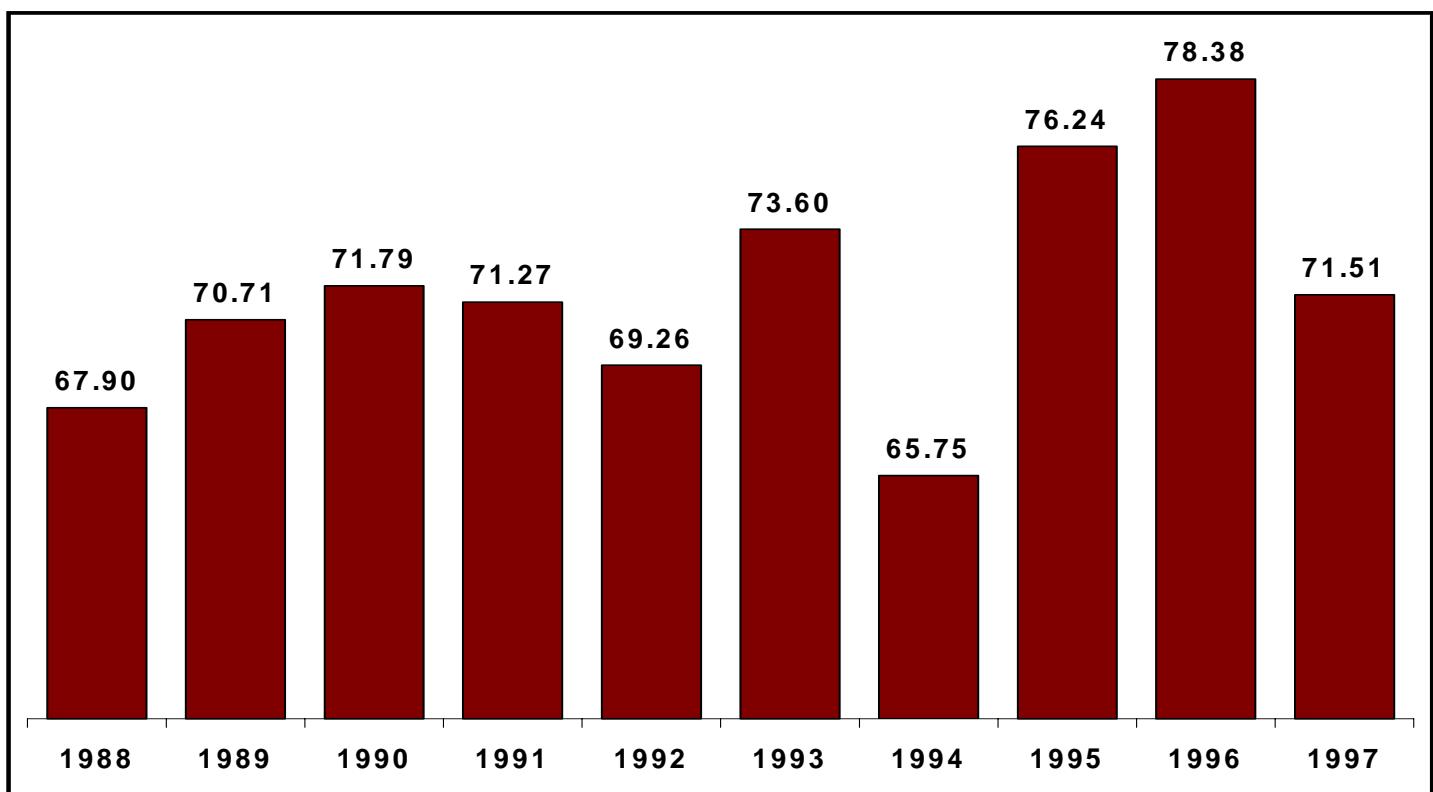
Protective Device Used	Severity of Injury									
	Fatal		Major		Minor		Unknown		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>None Used</b>	224	50.91%	887	27.68%	3,772	11.04%	104	7.06%	4,987	12.69%
<b>Lap Belt</b>	6	1.36%	82	2.56%	1,046	3.06%	7	0.48%	1,141	2.90%
<b>Lap &amp; Shoulder Belt</b>	118	26.82%	809	25.24%	9,212	26.96%	169	11.47%	10,308	26.23%
<b>Airbag Deployed</b>	10	2.27%	49	1.53%	376	1.10%	7	0.48%	442	1.12%
<b>Child Restraint</b>	3	0.68%	5	0.16%	184	0.54%	30	2.04%	222	0.56%
<b>Helmet</b>	1	0.23%	30	0.94%	85	0.25%	0	0.00%	116	0.30%
<b>Passive Restraint</b>	4	0.91%	11	0.34%	41	0.12%	3	0.20%	59	0.15%
<b>Other</b>	2	0.45%	9	0.28%	54	0.16%	2	0.14%	67	0.17%
<b>Unknown</b>	72	16.36%	1,323	41.28%	19,405	56.78%	1,151	78.14%	21,951	55.86%
<b>Total</b>	440	100.00%	3,205	100.00%	34,175	100.00%	1,473	100.00%	39,293	100.00%

NOTE: Does not include pedestrians.

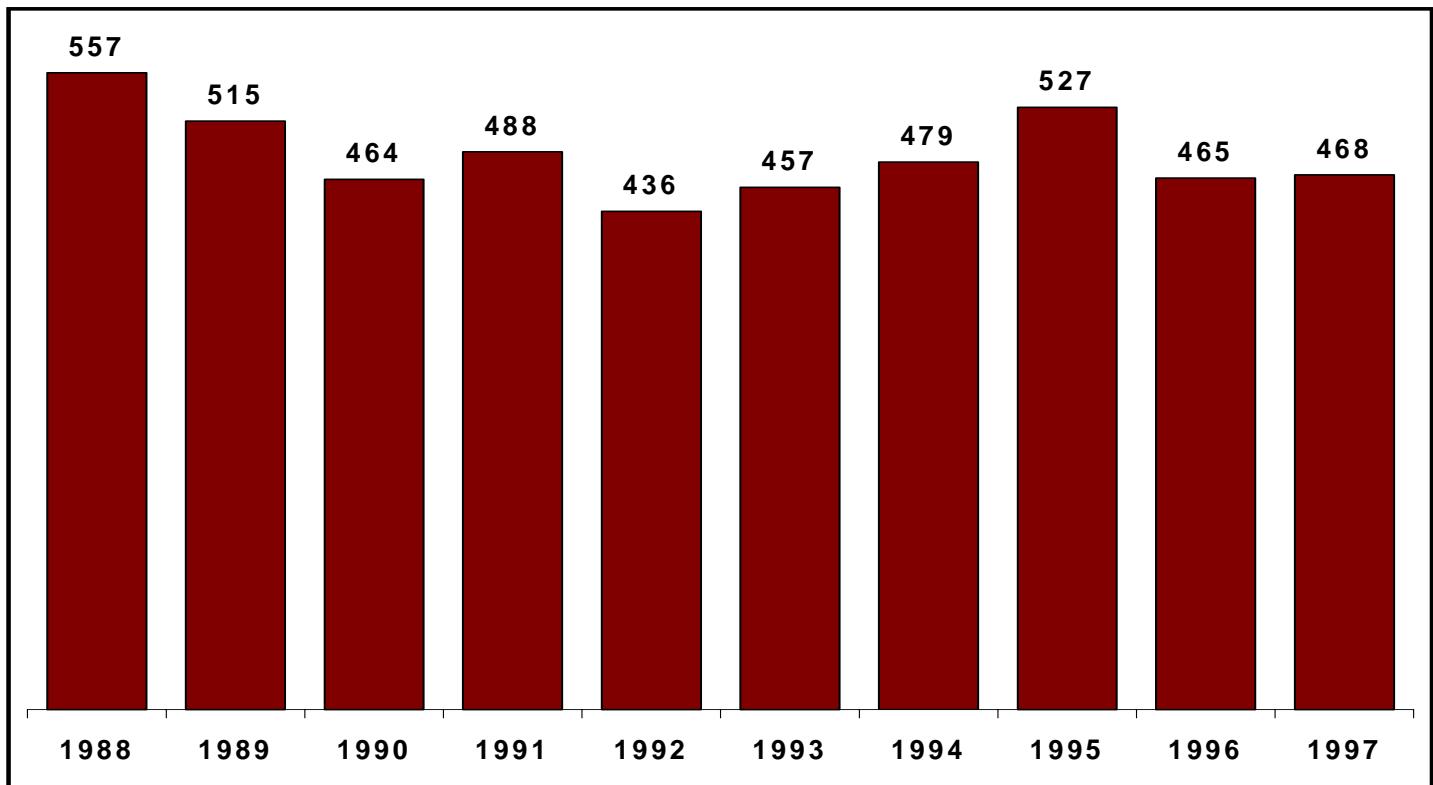
## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

### All Crashes

In Thousands

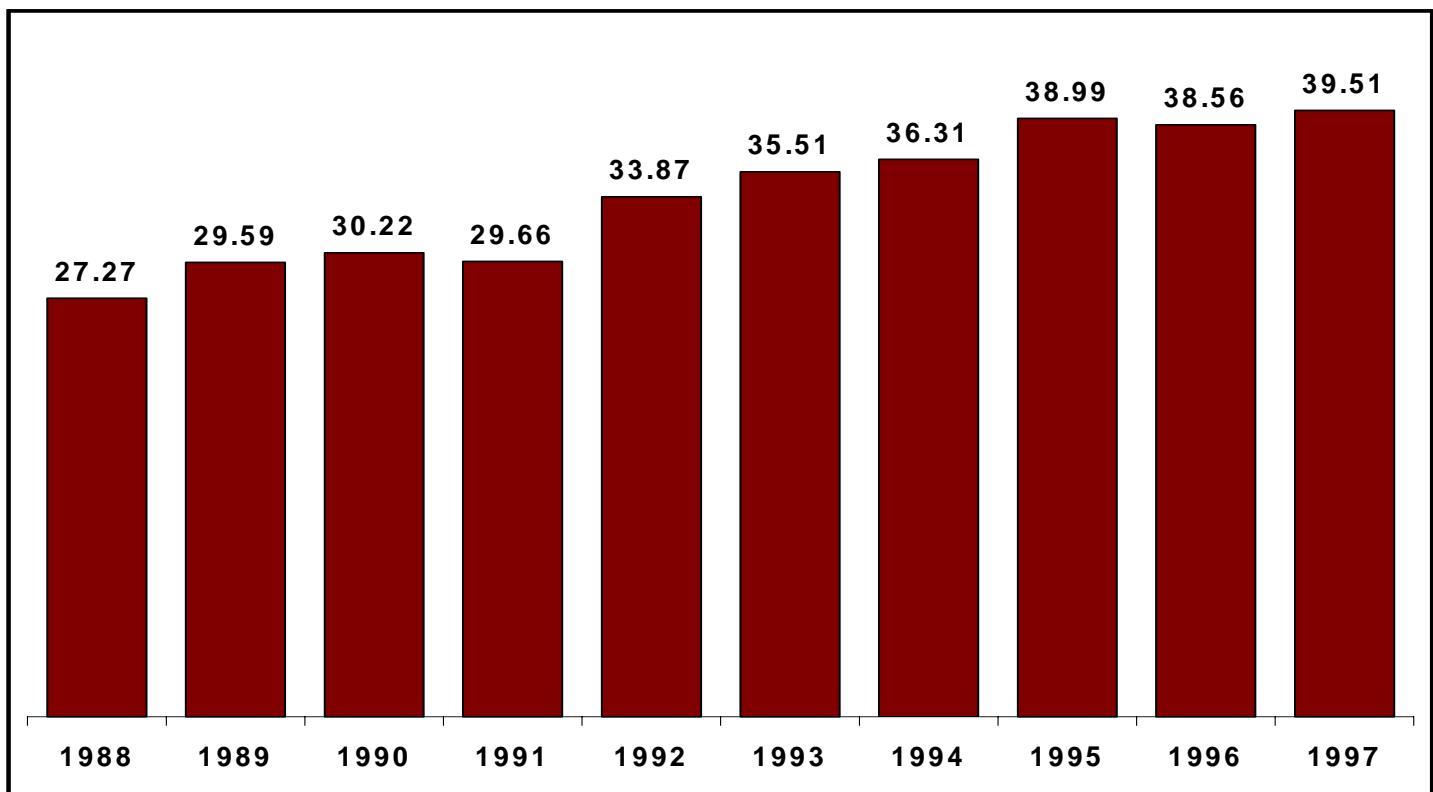


### Fatalities

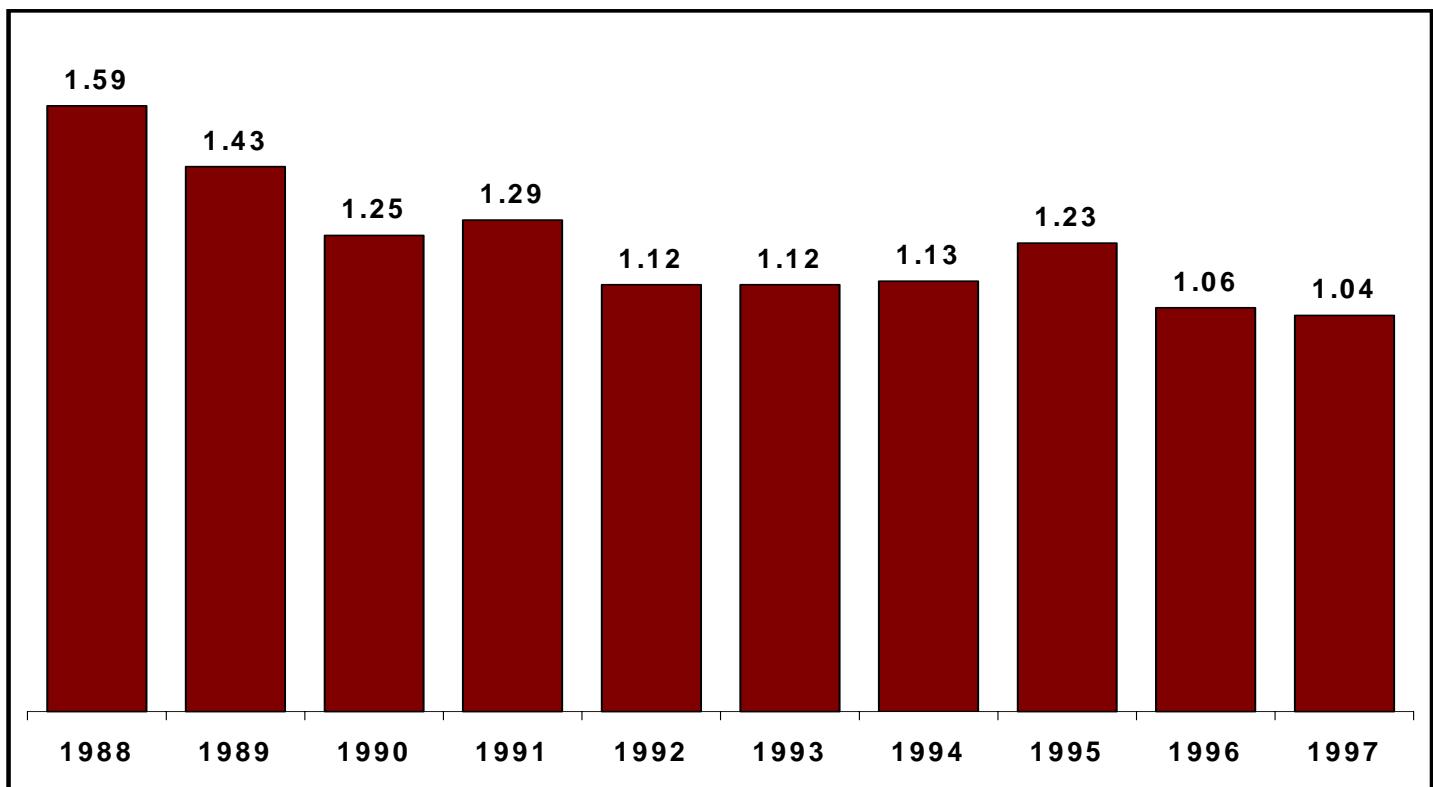


## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

**Injuries**  
In Thousands



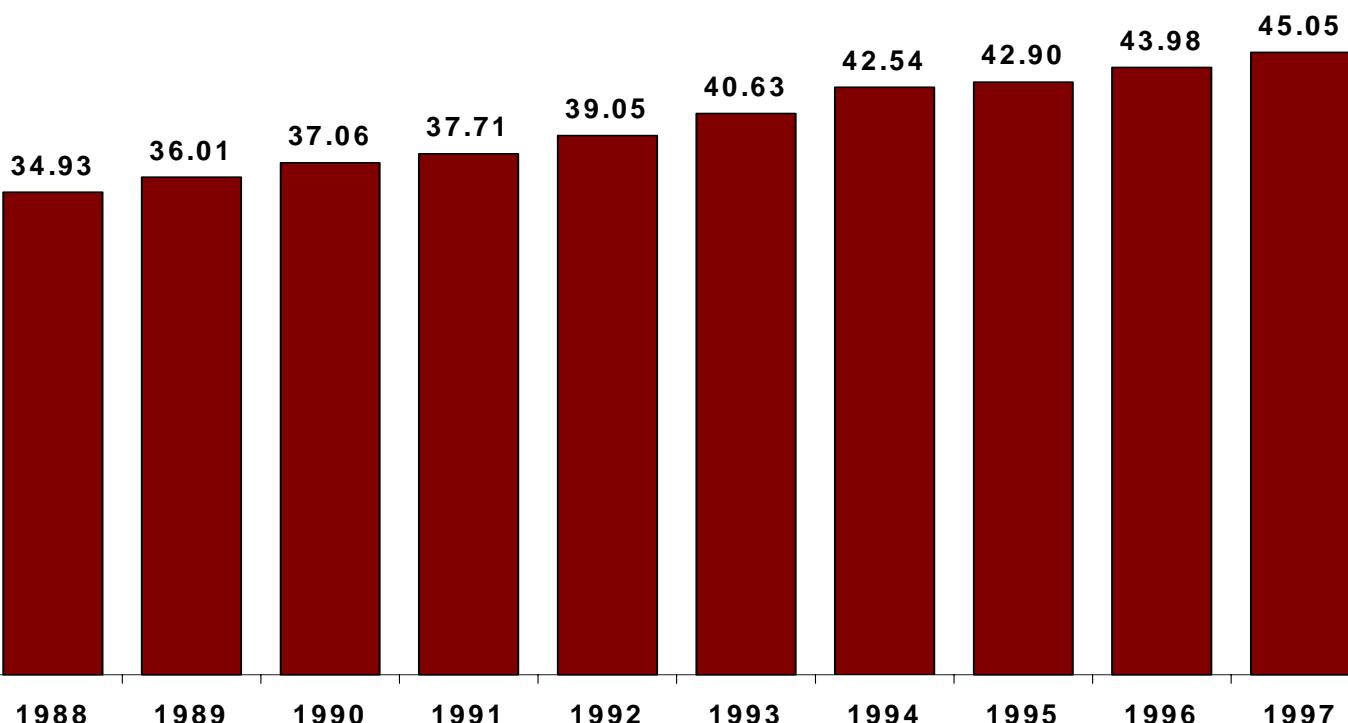
**Iowa Death Rate**  
Deaths per 100 Million Kilometers



## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

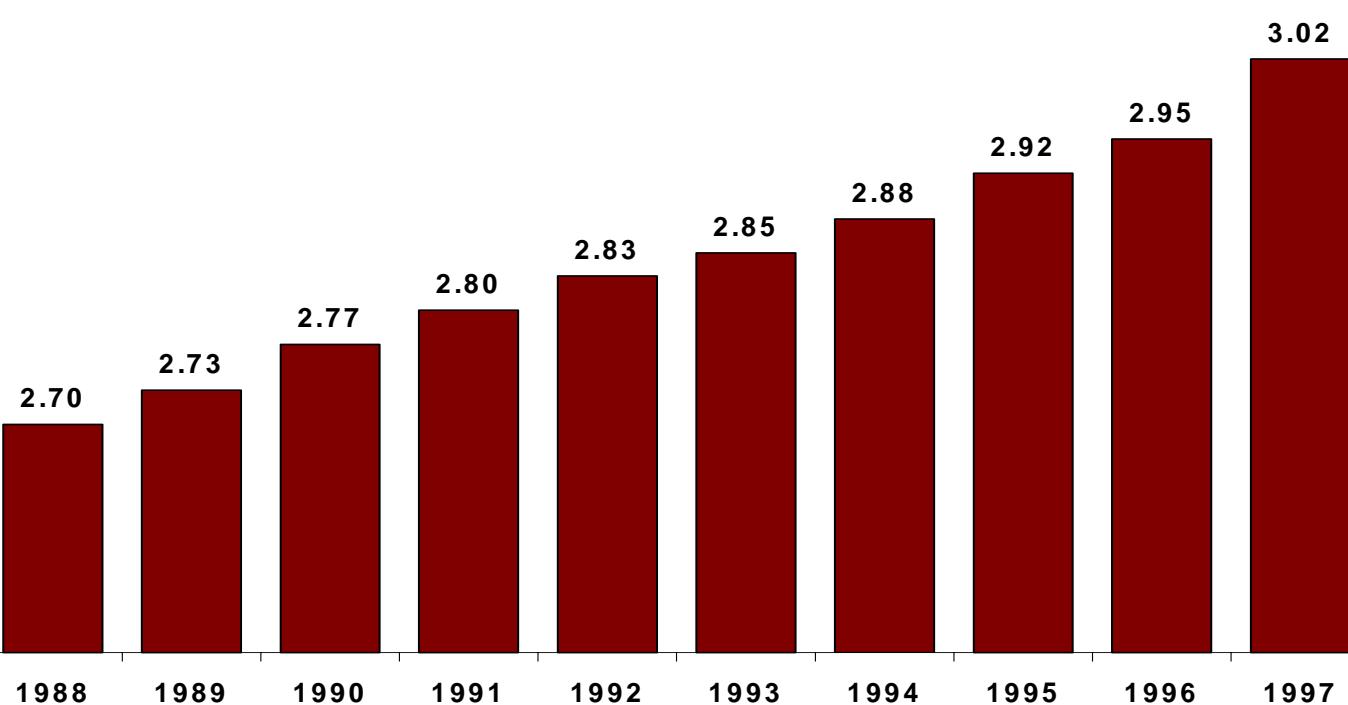
### Vehicle Kilometers Traveled

In Billions



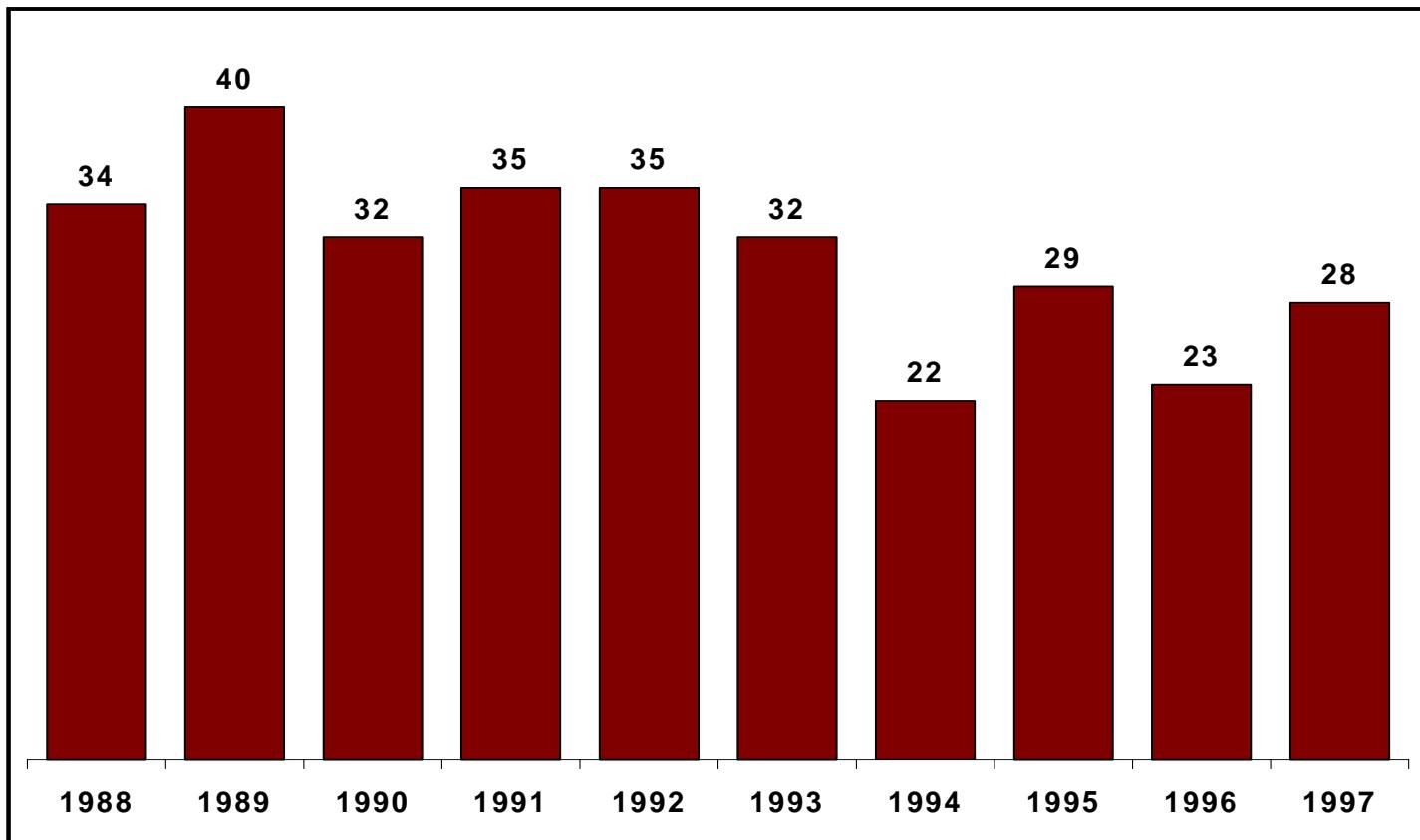
### Motor Vehicle Registrations

In Millions

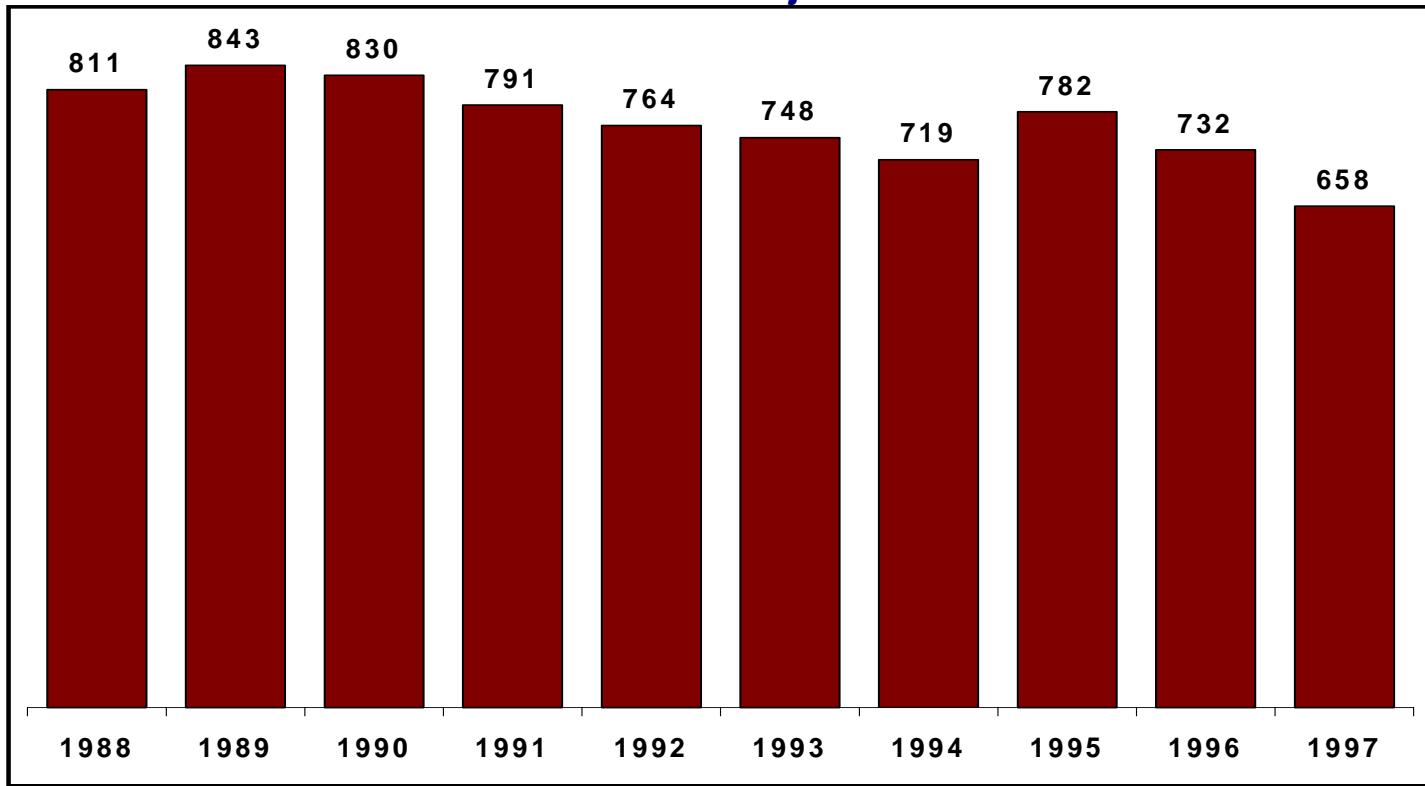


## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

### Pedestrian Fatalities

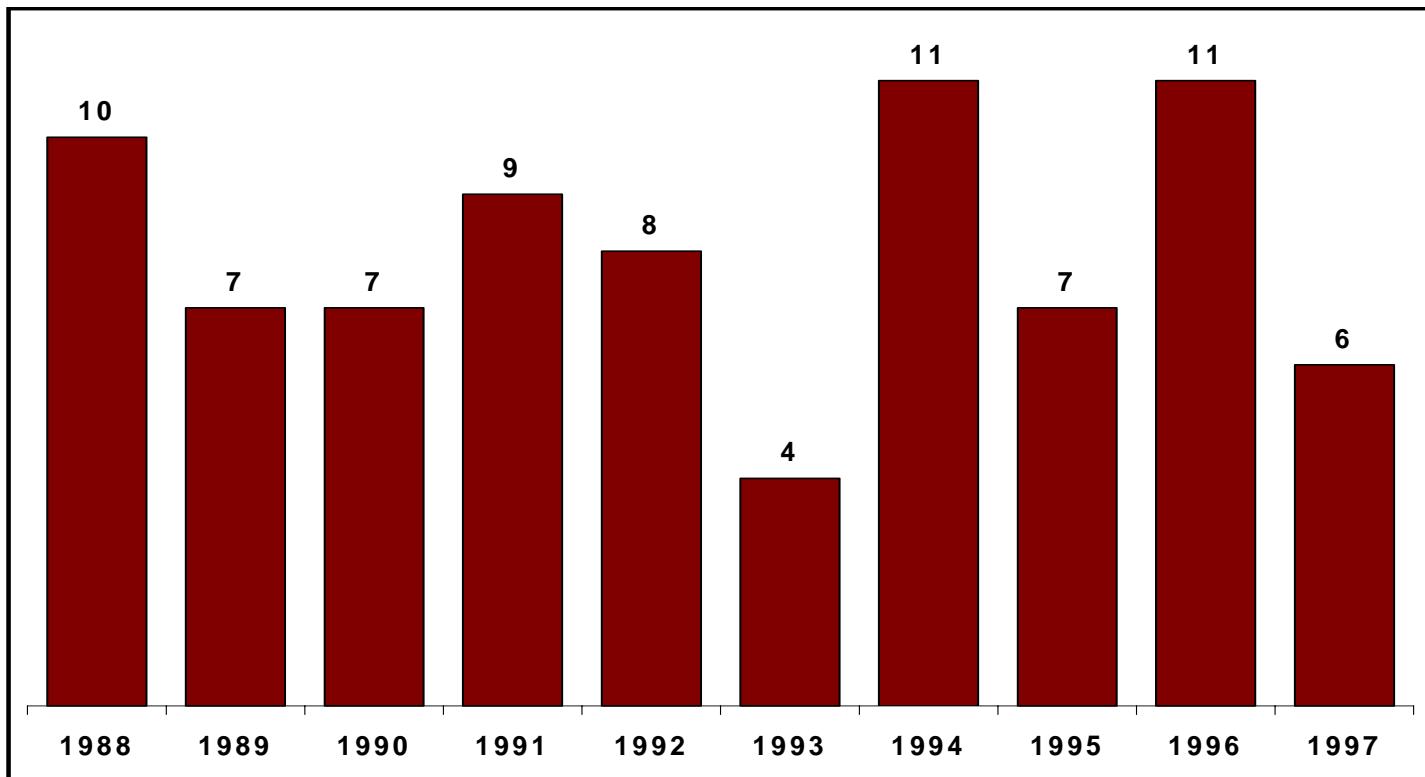


### Pedestrian Injuries

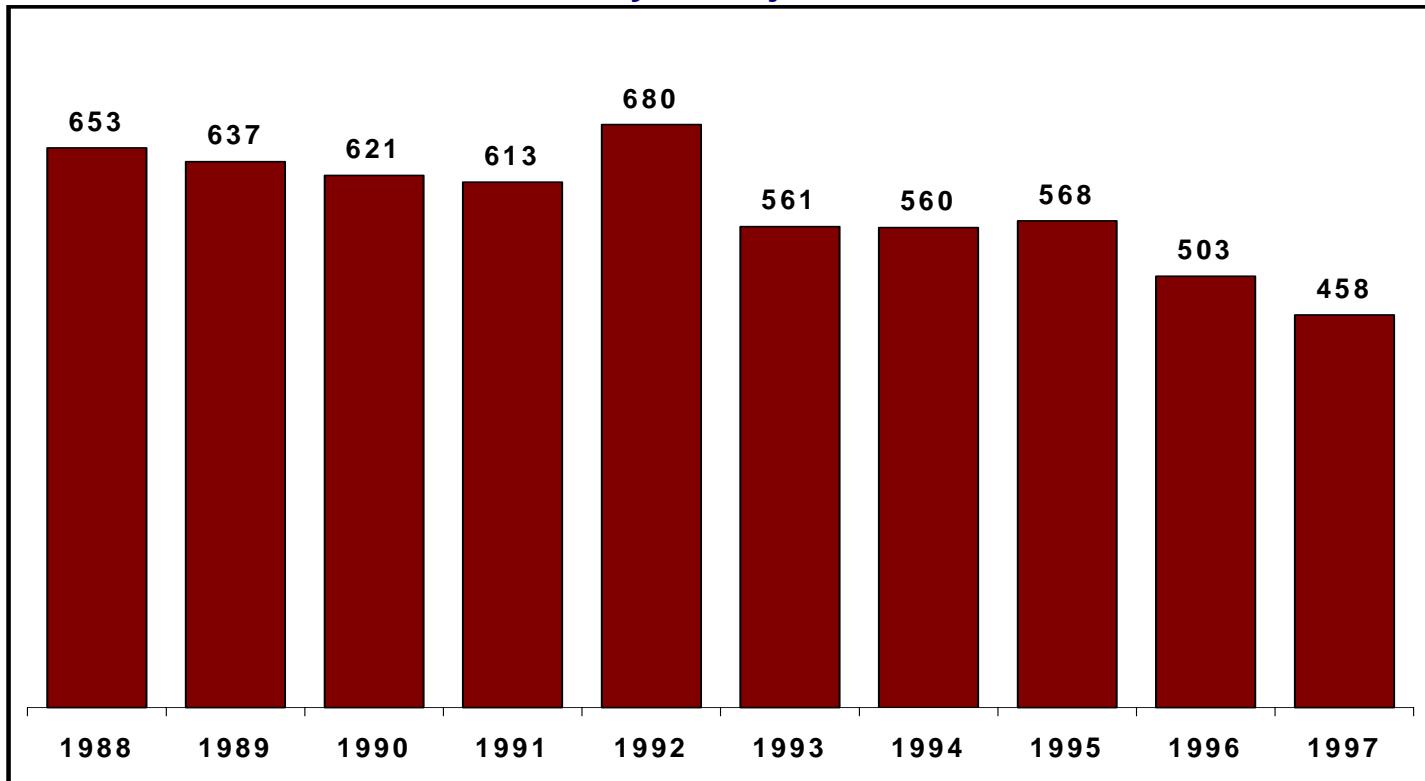


## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

### Bicyclist Fatalities

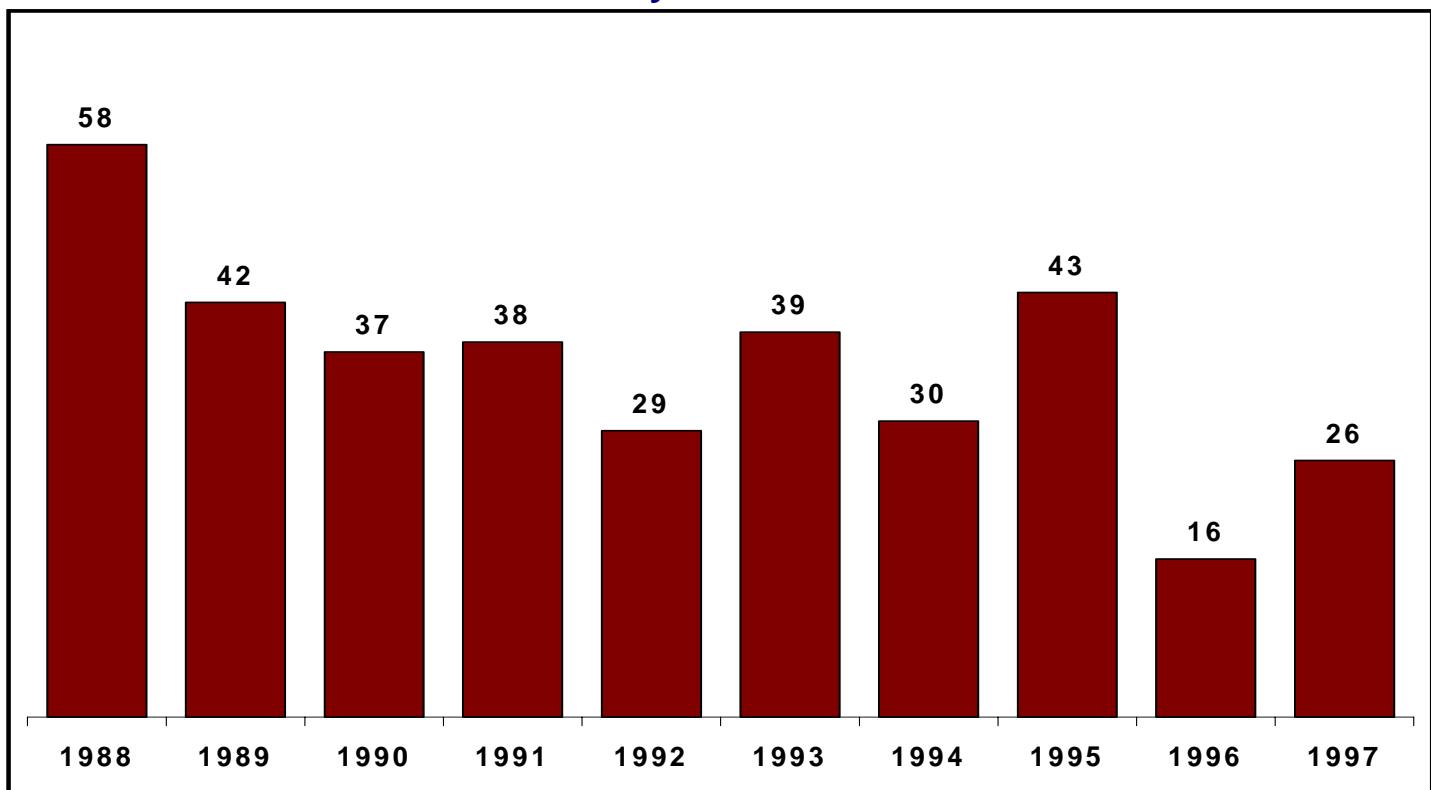


### Bicyclist Injuries

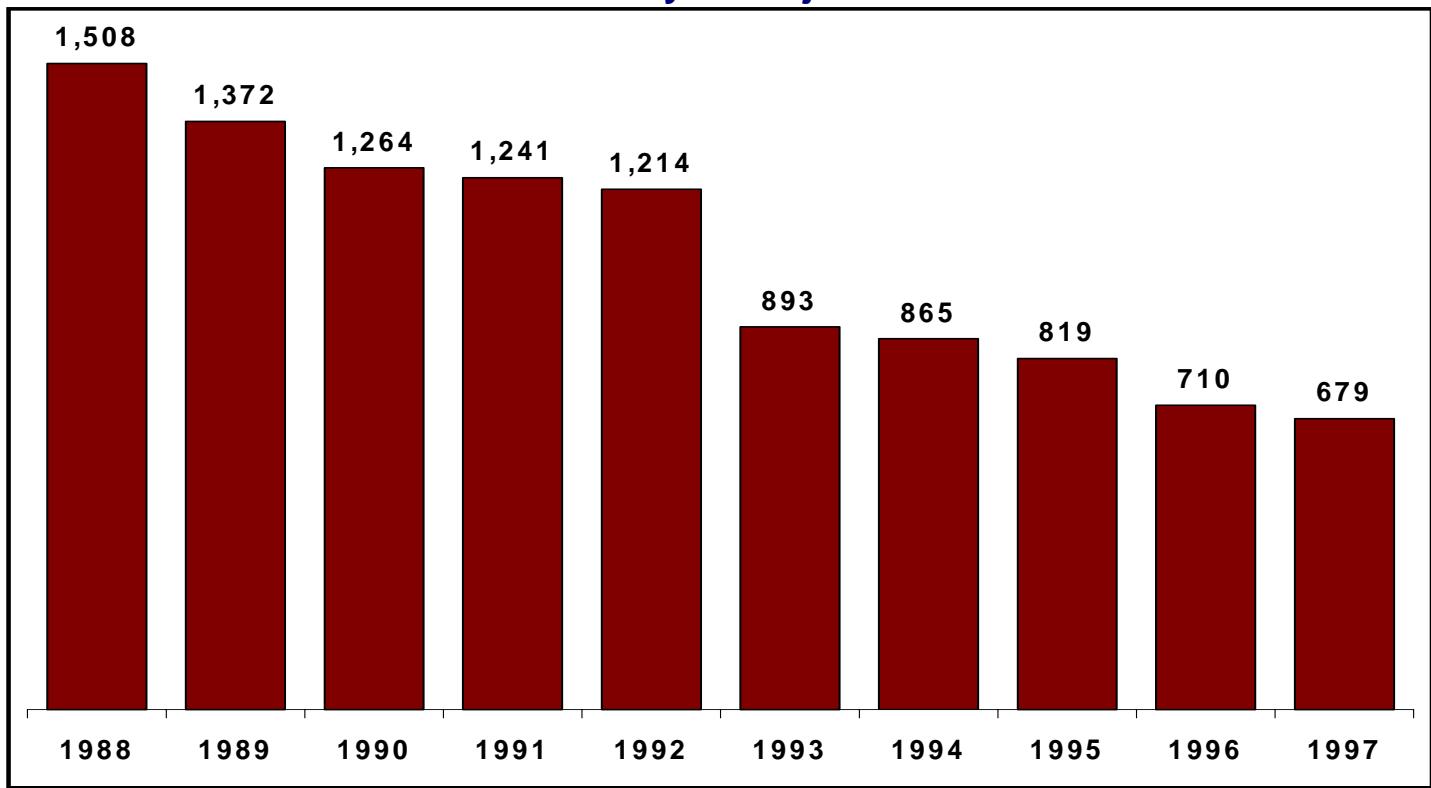


## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

### Motorcyclist Fatalities

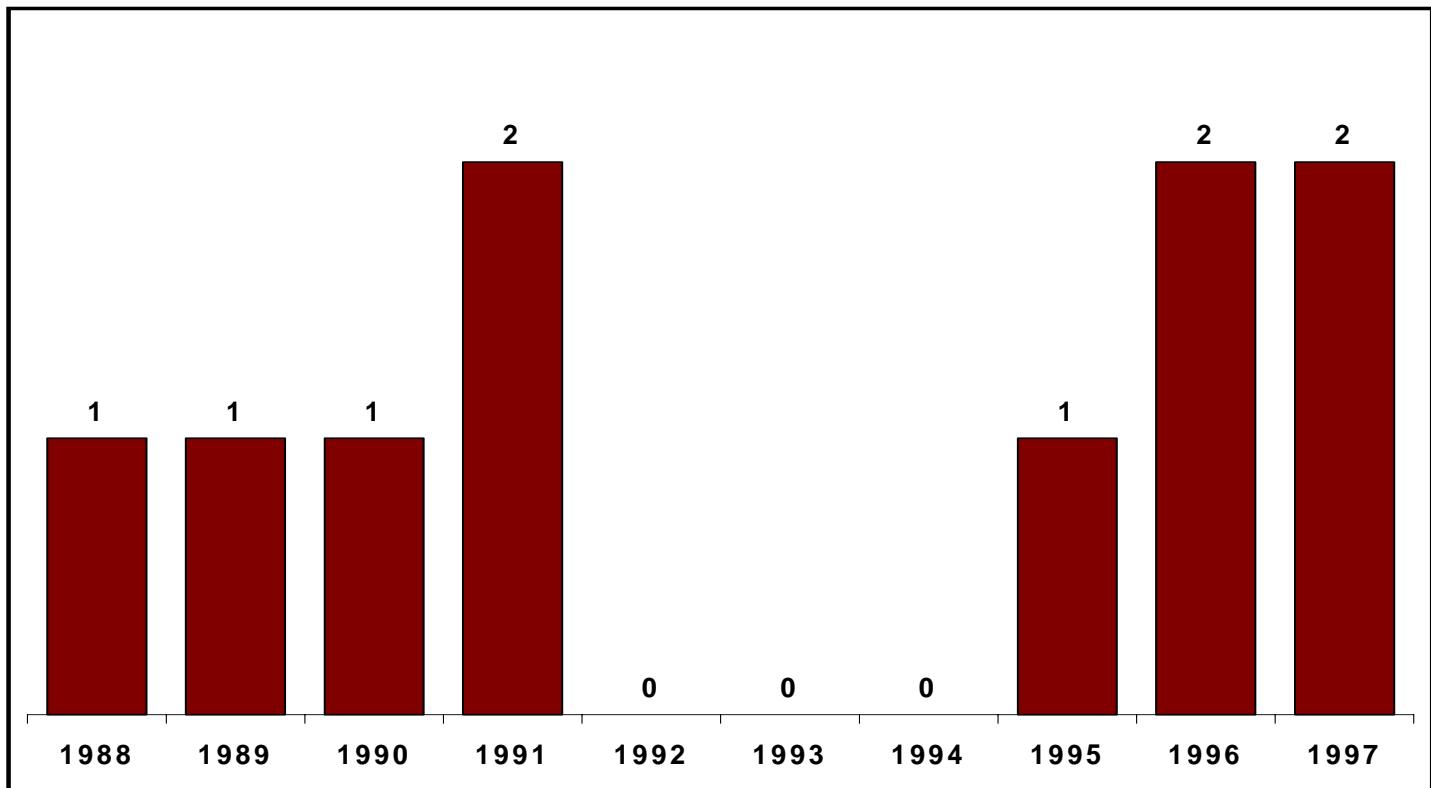


### Motorcyclist Injuries

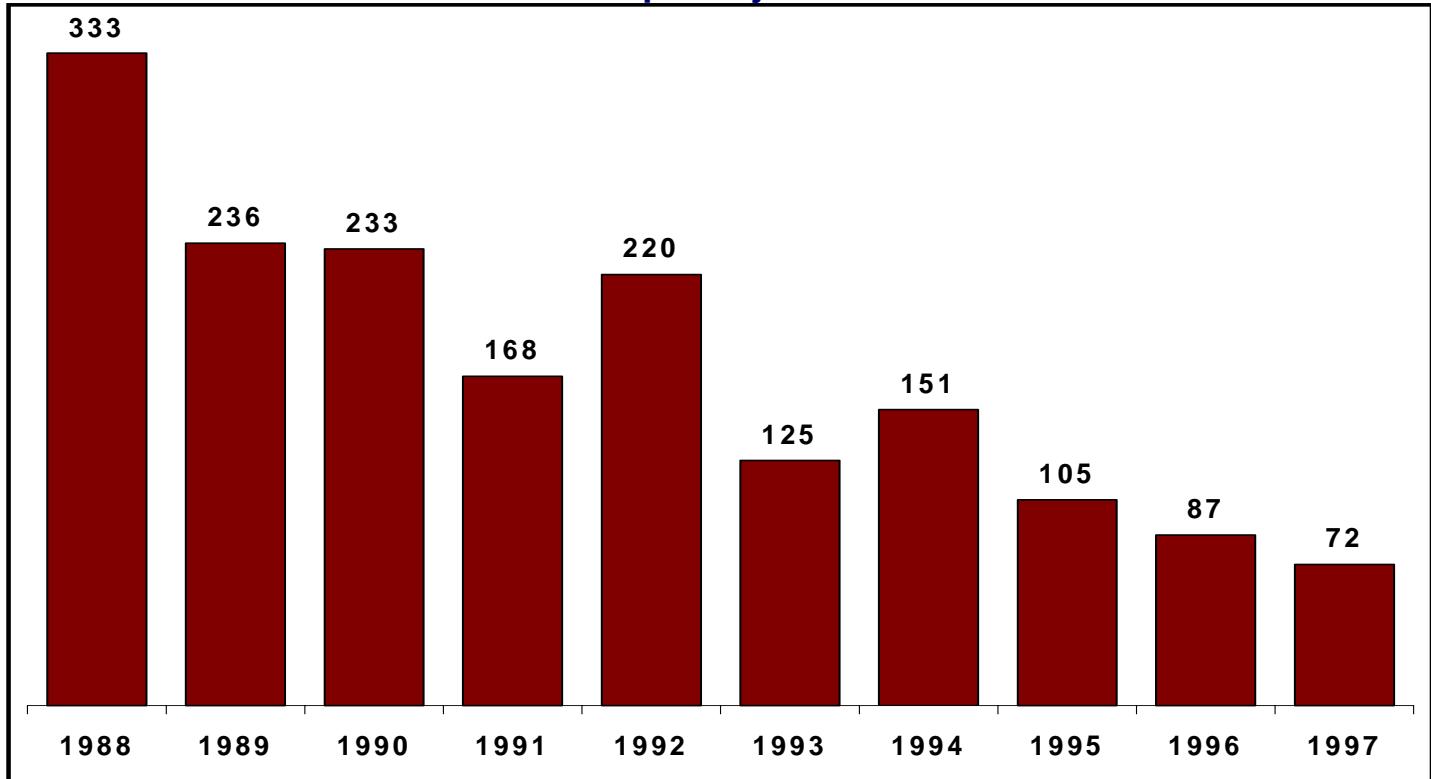


## 10-Year Iowa Statistics

### Moped Fatalities



### Moped Injuries



## 20-Year Iowa Statistics

### Iowa Statistics

Year	Fatalities	Injuries	Crashes			Vehicle Kilometers (Million)	Vehicle Kilometers Traveled			Licensed Drivers	Motor Vehicle Registrations			
			Fatal	Injury	All		Fatal Crash Rate	Total Crash Rate	Fatality Rate					
							Per 100 Million KM							
1978	650	31,631	563	21,651	91,213	31,147	1.81	292.84	2.09	2,398,656	2,474,790			
1979	655	29,972	566	20,727	86,969	30,334	1.87	286.70	2.16	2,419,501	2,540,547			
1980	626	29,100	541	20,280	77,800	29,288	1.85	265.64	2.14	2,408,793	2,554,379			
1981	612	28,776	529	19,945	68,263	29,944	1.77	227.97	2.04	2,472,614	2,592,604			
1982	480	25,905	431	17,933	61,549	31,026	1.39	198.38	1.55	1,977,911	2,577,994			
1983	510	26,050	434	18,049	61,190	31,539	1.38	194.01	1.62	1,998,982	2,542,267			
1984	420	27,868	376	19,378	62,818	32,770	1.15	191.70	1.28	2,000,085	2,655,529			
1985	473	26,988	415	18,752	63,624	32,166	1.29	197.80	1.47	1,970,272	2,796,172			
1986	441	26,669	388	18,522	61,683	32,770	1.18	188.23	1.35	1,949,108	2,841,138			
1987	491	27,074	443	18,695	63,458	33,318	1.33	190.46	1.47	1,897,495	2,892,994			
1988	557	27,578	494	19,123	67,901	34,934	1.41	194.37	1.59	1,940,463	2,701,924			
1989	515	29,597	452	20,612	70,716	36,014	1.26	196.35	1.43	1,976,726	2,730,604			
1990	464	30,222	403	20,577	71,792	37,062	1.09	193.71	1.25	1,922,750	2,771,940			
1991	488	29,663	423	20,034	71,271	37,714	1.12	188.98	1.29	1,963,975	2,802,036			
1992	436	33,876	387	23,012	69,261	39,058	0.99	177.33	1.12	2,025,592	2,830,151			
1993	457	35,510	399	24,503	73,608	40,634	0.98	181.15	1.12	2,041,713	2,851,302			
1994	479	36,315	416	24,763	74,048	42,541	0.98	174.06	1.13	2,060,651	2,885,112			
1995	527	38,992	446	26,213	76,203	42,901	1.04	177.63	1.23	2,070,341	2,920,666			
1996	465	38,562	411	25,297	78,357	43,987	0.93	178.14	1.06	2,069,241	2,946,853			
1997	468	39,513	411	25,511	71,512	45,045	0.91	158.76	1.04	2,069,792	3,027,355			

NOTE: Beginning with 1978, motor vehicle registrations includes official vehicles and excludes trailers, travel trailers, miscellaneous vehicles, and trucks licensed to operate in more than one state.

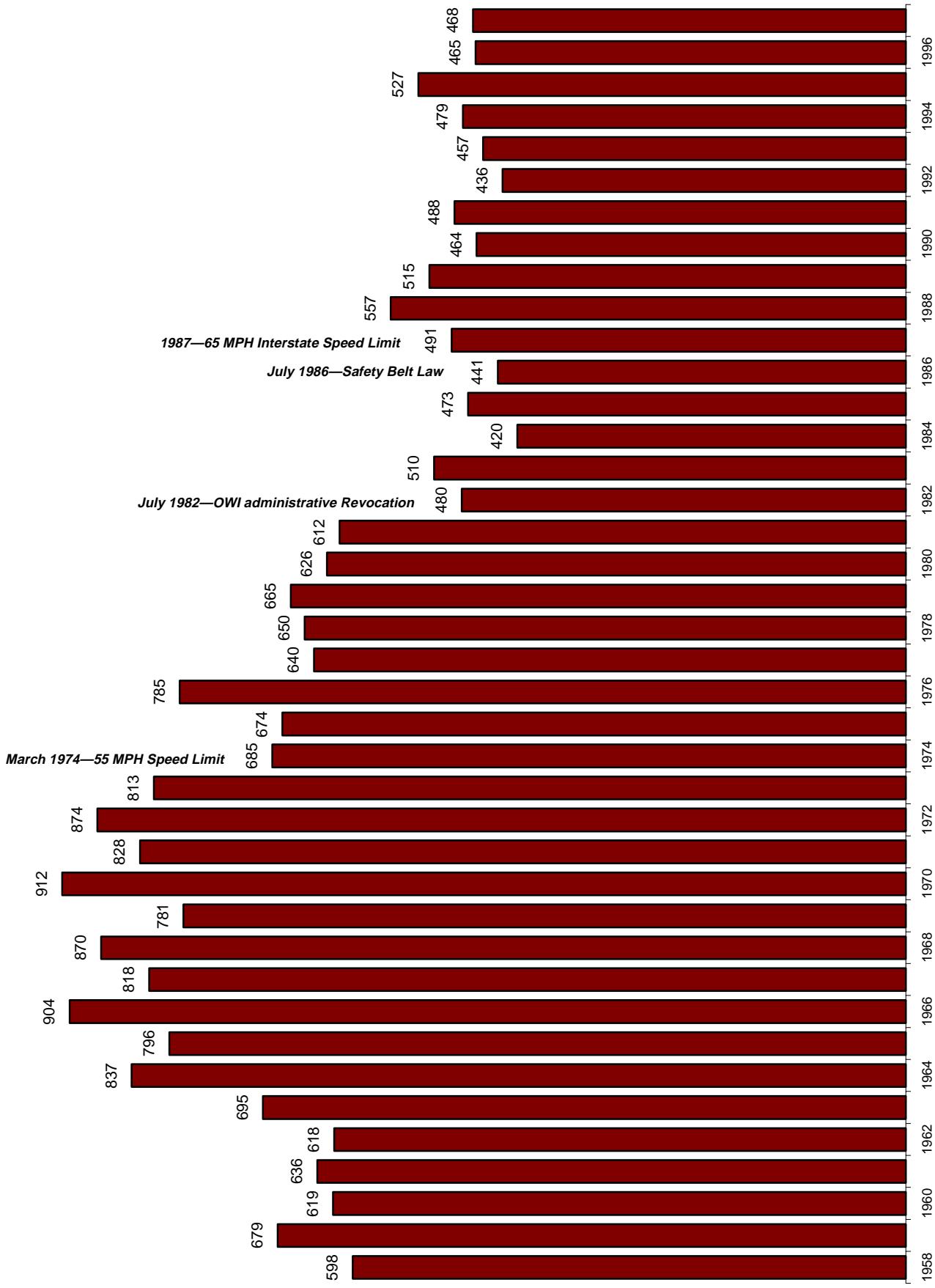
Beginning with 1979, figures for fatalities and fatal crashes are based on persons who died within 30 days of the crash.

Beginning in 1987, the drop in number of licensed drivers is due to more accurate methods of computation and multiple licenses only counted once.

Beginning with 1988, motor vehicle registrations excludes dealer titles and all trucks and all trucks licensed in more than one state.

# 40-Year Iowa Statistics

## Iowa Fatalities



## National Statistics

Year	Fatalities	Fatal Crashes	Resident Population (Thousands)	Fatality Rate per 100,000 Population	Licensed Drivers	Fatality Rate per 100,000 Licensed Drivers	Motor Vehicle Registrations (Thousands)	Fatality Rate per 100,000 Registered Vehicles	Vehicle Miles Traveled	Fatality Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled	Vehicle Kilometers Traveled (Billions)	Fatality Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Kilometers Traveled
1978	50,331	44,433	222,585	22.61	140,844	35.74	140,374	35.85	1,545	3.26	2,486	2.02
1979	51,093	45,223	225,055	22.70	143,284	35.66	144,317	35.40	1,529	3.34	2,461	2.08
1980	51,091	45,284	227,225	22.48	145,295	35.16	146,845	34.79	1,527	3.35	2,457	2.08
1981	49,301	44,000	229,466	21.49	147,075	33.52	149,330	33.01	1,553	3.17	2,499	1.97
1982	43,945	39,092	231,664	18.97	150,234	29.25	151,148	29.07	1,595	2.76	2,567	1.71
1983	42,589	37,976	233,792	18.22	154,289	27.60	162,830	26.16	1,653	2.58	2,660	1.60
1984	44,257	39,631	235,825	18.77	155,424	28.48	158,900	27.85	1,720	2.57	2,768	1.60
1985	43,825	39,168	237,924	18.42	156,868	27.94	166,047	26.39	1,774	2.47	2,855	1.54
1986	46,087	41,090	240,133	19.19	159,487	28.90	168,545	27.34	1,835	2.51	2,953	1.56
1987	46,390	41,438	242,289	19.15	161,818	28.67	172,750	26.85	1,921	2.41	3,092	1.50
1988	47,087	42,130	244,499	19.26	162,853	28.91	177,455	26.53	2,026	2.32	3,261	1.44
1989	45,582	40,741	246,819	18.47	165,555	27.53	181,165	25.16	2,096	2.17	3,373	1.35
1990	44,599	39,836	249,440	17.88	167,015	26.70	184,275	24.20	2,144	2.08	3,450	1.29
1991	41,508	36,937	252,124	16.46	168,995	24.56	186,370	22.27	2,172	1.91	3,496	1.19
1992	39,250	34,942	255,002	15.39	173,125	22.67	184,938	21.22	2,247	1.75	3,616	1.09
1993	40,150	35,780	257,753	15.58	173,149	23.19	188,350	21.32	2,297	1.75	3,697	1.09
1994	40,716	36,254	260,292	15.64	175,403	23.21	192,497	21.15	2,358	1.73	3,795	1.07
1995	41,817	37,241	262,761	15.91	176,628	23.68	197,065	21.22	2,423	1.73	3,899	1.07
1996	42,065	37,494	265,179	15.86	179,539	23.43	201,631	20.86	2,486	1.69	4,001	1.05
1997	41,967	37,280	267,636	15.68	N/A	N/A	203,568	20.62	2,560	1.64	4,120	1.02

## 20-Year National Statistics

**National Fatality Rates**  
per 100 Million Kilometers Traveled

